



GLIDE Update

**Board Retreat
September 30, 2025**

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Fulton
County Schools
Where Students Come First

Purpose

Information:

- Review Timelines
- Updated GLIDE Idea List

Action

- Gather Board's Input & Feedback



Long-Term Financial Strategy



Growth Opportunities

Lean Operations

Investment in Innovation

Diversify Revenue

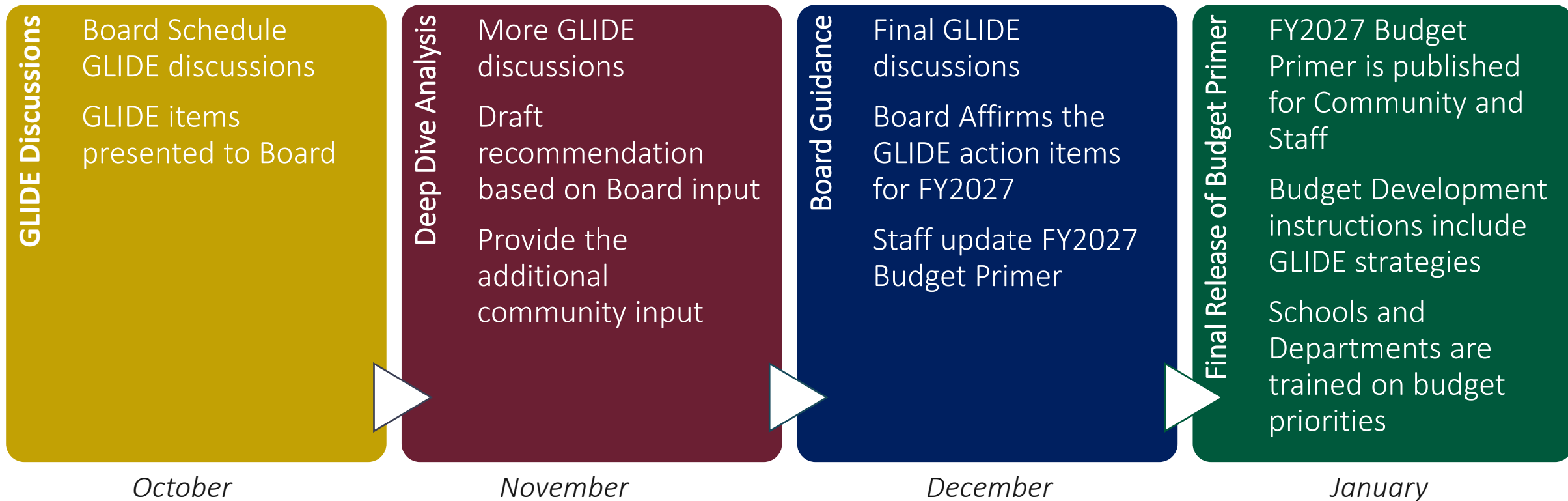
Enhance Efficiency



Item 1: Timeline



Item 1: Board Timeline



Item 2: Feedback Collected



Unique Ideas	110
Duplicated Ideas	232
Others	126
Total	468

HOME > FINANCIAL SERVICES > G.L.I.D.E.

Financial Services Division

- Accounting Services
- Budget Services +
- Bridge To Success +
- Charitable Fund +
- Contracting +
- Office of Grant Services +
- Payroll & Employee Benefits
- Retirement Services +
- Risk Management
- G.L.I.D.E.** -
- Strategies Under Consideration

Growth Opportunities
Lean Operations
Investment in Innovation
Diversify Revenue
Enhance Efficiency

Managing Financial Pressures through Strategic Budgeting

Fulton County Schools is facing growing financial pressures that threaten its ability to sustain critical services for students and staff. Rising costs, declining student enrollment, and changing local and state funding conditions are driving a projected budget shortfall.

G.L.I.D.E. (Growth Opportunities, Lean Operations, Investment in Innovation, Diversify Revenue and Enhance Efficiency) is the district's strategic approach using current data and reasonable projections to identify financial risks so budgetary concerns are proactively addressed before they are urgent. This framework outlines a path for a cumulative fiscal adjustment of approximately \$93 to \$95 million over the next five years in order to maintain a healthy fund balance.

Without a focus on strategic planning and informed decision-making now, funding challenges could impact classroom learning, staffing, and essential operations.

Helpful Resources

- [Overview of G.L.I.D.E. and Financial Challenges](#) (PDF)
- [Overview of Revenue-Generating and Cost-Reduction Strategies](#) (PDF)
- [List of Revenue-Generating and Cost-Reduction Strategies](#) (webpage)

Provide Feedback

Share your feedback through this ThoughtExchange engagement.

Join the Conversation
www.tejoin.com/scroll/810399903

Item 2:

Cost Saving and Efficiency Strategies

Automate & Digitize Processes

- Replace paper-based systems with electronic workflows.
- Expand use of automation tools and systemwide messaging platforms.

Strengthen Contract & Vendor Management

- Train on negotiation strategies.
- Formalize RFP processes, consolidate contracts, enforce competitive pricing, and reduce reliance on sole-source contracts.
- Standardize purchasing through districtwide contracts and leverage piggyback agreements.

Enhance Accountability & Transparency

- Hold schools and families accountable for accurate time entry, student fees, and damaged devices.
- Establish systemwide financial measurement tools to track spending patterns.
- Promote transparent communication and a culture of fiscal responsibility.

Reduce Energy & Operational Costs

- Ban or limit personal appliances (printers, mini-fridges, space heaters, coffee pots).
- Enforce energy-saving practices (e.g., lights off, equipment shutdown).
- Use preventive maintenance tracking to anticipate and reduce costs.

Promote Smart Spending & Culture Change

- Differentiate “needs vs. wants” when approving spending.
- Eliminate or reduce non-essential spending such as SWAG, décor, and staff favors.
- Provide budget literacy tools and training.
- Shift organizational mindset from “spend” to strategic financial choices.

Item 3: Consolidate Ideas



Growth Opportunities

- Increase facility rental rates
- Boost FTE revenue through scheduling/coding
- Adjust millage rate



Lean Operations

- Phase out Extended Learning
- Modify CTAE Elementary allotment
- Adjust iReady usage
- Reduce KSU iTeach support
- Early retirement incentives
- Reduce overtime & leave payouts
- District furlough day
- Shift PD to virtual/in-district
- Install solar panels
- Reduce take-home vehicles
- Sell/lease unused facilities
- Summer building shutdown
- Review district-issued cell phones



Invest in Innovation

- Move to digital textbooks
- Revise Fulton Virtual Courses funding
- Reduce/restructure Vanguard
- Adjust Junior Achievement program
- Rebrand College & Career Academy
- Eliminate cash pickup services
- Outsource/convert contracted staffing



Diversify Revenue

- Increase cell tower lease rates
- Increase Medicaid reimbursement
- Expand grants & sponsorships



Enhance Efficiency

- Fund one AP exam per student
- Review magnet allotments
- Consolidate summer school sites
- Realign professional assistants
- Adjust bus routes (4-tier bell schedule)
- Increase recycling & compactors
- Restrict personal appliances
- Centralize student registration

Protocol for Discussion



- **Review Summary:** High-level overview
- **Clarify:** Ask clarifying questions (what you need to understand the idea)
- **Share Your Thoughts:** Briefly state your perspective
- **Pulse Check:** Indicate Green or Red
 - ● Move forward to get more information
 - ● Do not advance
- **Keep It High-Level:** Subject Matter Experts will be giving a deeper dive with the Board; Today, we decide if it's worth moving forward.